

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/612,064

Applicant(s)

CURRY ET AL.

Examiner

PAWANDEEP S. DHINGRA

Art Unit

2625

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/4/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 and 8-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

/Twyler L. Haskins/

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The invention is directed to a method and system for de-screening an image signal utilizing a bank of filters to provide several increasingly blurred versions of the original image signal. Claims 1, 11, and 17 identify the uniquely distinct features of wherein operation (c) comprises the operations of: (1) receiving, via a contrast module, a filter output signal from one of the filters having larger filter spans, and producing a contrast signal; (2) receiving, via a screen estimate module, the image signal and producing an estimated frequency signal and a estimated frequency and magnitude signal; and (3) receiving, via a pixel control module, the contrast signal from the contrast module and the estimated frequency and magnitude signal from the screen estimate module, and producing the first control signal, the first control signal including information regarding which of the filter output signals are to be blended and the proportion of blending. The closest prior arts, Fan et al, US 6,839,152 in view of Cheung et al, US 6,222,945 teaches the method for de-screening an image signal and selecting a pair of filters from a bank of filters for filtering the image signal.

The prior arts, Fan et al, US 6,839,152 and Cheung et al, US 6,222,945 disclose blending the output from the selected pair of filters but does not disclose receiving, via a pixel control module, the contrast signal from the contrast module and the estimated frequency and magnitude signal from the screen estimate module, and producing the

first control signal, the first control signal including information regarding which of the filter output signals are to be blended and the proportion of blending.

The meaning of the sentences wherein operation (c) comprises the operations of: (1) receiving, via a contrast module, a filter output signal from one of the filters having larger filter spans, and producing a contrast signal; (2) receiving, via a screen estimate module, the image signal and producing an estimated frequency signal and a estimated frequency and magnitude signal; and (3) receiving, via a pixel control module, the contrast signal from the contrast module and the estimated frequency and magnitude signal from the screen estimate module, and producing the first control signal, the first control signal including information regarding which of the filter output signals are to be blended and the proportion of blending is defined in applicant's drawings and specification.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PAWANDEEP S. DHINGRA whose telephone number is (571)270-1231. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9:30-7:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler L. Haskins can be reached on 571-272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/P. D./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Twyler L. Haskins/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625  
4/14/08